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Controller Releases More Local Government Payroll Figures

SACRAMENTO – State Controller John Chiang today unveiled an showing the salary, pension benefits and other employee compensation for several hundred local transit, waste disposal, and fire and police protection districts.

"Californians were offered instant access to salary information in their own communities when I launched the first public payroll site of city and county compensation last fall," said Chiang. "Posting this information allows California residents to see where their public dollars are being spent and to better hold their local agencies accountable."

Last October, the Controller collected and posted wage information for more than 600,000 city and county employees. He then ordered special districts across the state to report the same information.

Compensation information for employees of special districts is being collected and posted on the website in four phases. The first phase – launched today – includes more than \$3 billion in payroll reported by 693 local agencies. The next phase will include land reclamation and levee maintenance, health, hospital and water agencies.

The Local Government Compensation Reporting website covers elected officials as well as public employees. It includes the following information for each position:

- Minimum and maximum salary ranges;
- Actual wages paid;
- The applicable retirement formula;
- Any contributions by the employer to the employee's share of pension costs;
- Any contributions by the employer to the employee's deferred compensation plan;
 and
- Any employer payments for the employee's health, vision and dental premium benefits.

In addition, the website shows employees who hold multiple positions within a single local government. Postings are updated weekly with any new information received.

Eighty percent of all special districts in the first phase successfully followed the new reporting requirements. A that failed to file in time for today's launch can also be found on his website. Each non-complying agency could face a penalty of \$5,000. The Controller anticipates completing the website with all special district information, along with compensation for state employees, in June of 2011.